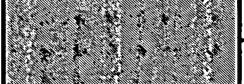
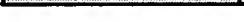


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<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 29827/40251
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2003/007228	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 7 July 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 12 July 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION USE OF WATER-ABSORBENT, PREDOMINANTLY OPEN-CELLED CROSSLINKED ACID-FUNCTIONAL ADDITION POLYMER FOAMS IN HYGIENE ARTICLES		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Samantha Champ et al.		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))        a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).        b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.        c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)).        a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.        b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))        a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).        b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.        c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.        d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</p>		
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Return receipt postcard</p>		

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

U. S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER	
<b>10/520545</b>	PCT/EP2003/007228		29827/40251	
21. The following fees are submitted:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Basic national fee .....\$300.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b) Examination fee .....\$200.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Search fee .....\$500.00		Applicant Use		Office Use Only
		\$ 300.00		
		\$ 200.00		
		\$ 500.00		
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>			<b>\$1000.00</b>	\$ 1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.				
Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE	
17 - 100 =	/50 =		x \$250.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).				
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	10 - 20 =		x	\$
Independent claims	1 - 3 =		x	\$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(s) (if applicable)				
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>			<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by ½.				
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b> \$ 1,000.00				
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).				
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b> \$ 1,000.00				
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b> \$ 1,000.00				
<input type="checkbox"/> Amount to be refunded:  <input type="checkbox"/> Amount to be charged: 				
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ 1,000.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.				
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.				
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:				
 SIGNATURE: James J. Napoli NAME: _____				
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 04743				
32,361				
REGISTRATION NUMBER: _____				

Application No. (if known): Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 29827/40251

## Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 532461943 US in an envelope addressed to:

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on January 6, 2005  
Date



Signature

Juan Quintero

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Registration Number, if applicable

Telephone Number

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated-Elected Office (2 pages)

Application Data Sheet (3 pages)

Preliminary Amendment

Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition

Second copy of International Publication

Check in the amount of \$1,000.00

Return receipt postcard